Central Railway Mazdoor Sangh, Mumbai, have openly portested against this advertisement.

(d) whether the said union has threatened to start an agitation against the advertisement; and

(e) if so, what steps this ministry propose to take about this advertisement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Advertisements were taken to assist on-board train passengers in registering their grievances, in case they faced any harassment/extortion from the railway staff on duty. The advertisements were in no way intended to target any category of railway employee, but were designed to act as a deterrent to corrupt employees.

(c) to (e) In May 2006, some sections of ticket checking staff had expressed their resentment through their affiliated federations/unions at the singling out of this category as corrupt. Central Railway Mazdoor Sangh was also one such union which registered its protest. In deference to their sensitivities the word "TTE" has been replaced by "Railway Official" in the subsequent advertisements brought out by zonal railways.

Old Rolling Stock

514. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Parliamentary panel has impressed upon the railways to phase out old rolling stock in the interest of safety of the passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the approximate number of old and out-dated rolling stock which requires replacement; and

(d) the time frame within which the above old stock is proposed to be replaced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the 17th Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways (2005-2006) on Production Units, Workshops and Maintenance of Rolling Stock.

(c) 1. Nos. of overaged coaches

Broad Gauge	Meter Gauge	Narrow Gauge
341	194	68

2. Nos of overaged EMU Coaches-601

3. Nos of overaged Diesel electric multiple unit coaches

Broad Gauge	Meter Gauge	Narrow Gauge
260	119	03

(d) Replacement of overaged rolling stock is planned on year to year basis. The codal life is only indicative and actual condemnation is done on the basis of age cum condition of rolling stock. This is a continuous process.

Upgradation of Railway Stations

515. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a detailed plan has been drawn up to upgrade railway stations throughout the country and, in the first phase, 327 railway stations have been selected to be developed as model stations with modern facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the names of railway stations selected for upgradation and the present status of its implementation, State-wise;

(c) the criteria evolved for selection of the 327 railway stations for upgradation; and

(d) the details of the phased programme drawn up for upgradation of the remaining stations also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) With a view to provide upgraded passenger amenities, 578 stations have been nominated as model stations, out of which 327 stations were nominated prior to the presentation of Railway Budget 2006-07. Details of the 578 stations nominated so far zone-wise are given in Statement-I. (See Below). 110 stations have been developed